Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to constitute ground water authorities at the State and Union Territory level to regulate and control the development of ground water;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P. K. THUNGON): (a) and (b) The draft Model Bill to regulate and control the development of Ground Water, which has been circulated to the State Governments/Union Territories for consideration/suggestions, contains a provision for the establishment of a Ground Water Authority. Such Authority to be set up by the State Government/Union Territories is envisaged to be headed by a Chairman and have representatives of concerned Departments and experts on Ground Water as Members.

(c) Does not arise.

Adequate Facilities for Rehabilitation of Affected People of Sardar Sarovar Project

1717. SHRI RANJAN PRASAD YADAV: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that at Lunadra, situated at highway of Navsari, where tribals resettled under the Sardar Sarovar Project have been given land, there is a scarcity of water as wells have started drying up and land is infertile; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take to ensure that the resettled tribals have a sufficient supply of water and adequate agricultural land and what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P. K. THUNGON): (a) and (b) There are at present one well and two handpumps provided for drinking water at Lunadra village relocation site in Gujarat for the Sardar Sarovar Project affected people. This has been found inadequate. The resettlement and rehabilitation Sub-Group of Narmada Control Authority headed by Secretary in the Union Ministry of Welfare had visited Lunadra relocation site on 18th June, 1993. It has been observed that the handpumps installed at the relocation site were going out of order and there was time lac in the repair of these handpumps. The Government of Gujarat has agreed to provide additional drinking water facilities by way of digging additional bore well or by laying a pipeline from the reliable sources, if necessary, to ensure adequate supply of sweet water. The Government of Gujarat has also decided to impart training to one of the project affected people in each of the resettlement sites, so that the handpumps could be repaired expeditiously. A tools-kit will also be provided for quick repair of the handpumps. None of the oustees has, however, complained to the Sub-Group on resettlement & rehabilitation about the poor quality of agricultural land at this relocation site.

Completion of Rajghat and Bansagar Inter-State Projects

1718. SHRI LAKKHIRAM AGARWAL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the revised target date of completion of Rajghat and Bansagar Inter-State Projects;

(b) what action is being taken by the Central Government for providing adequate funds to the Project;

(c) whether a time bound programme has been prepared for payment of land compensation and rehabilitation of oustees; and

(d) if so, what progress has been achieved so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P. K. THUNGON): (a) As per revised targets, Rajghat Dam Project and Rajghat Hydro Electric Project are scheduled to be completed by August, 1994 and Bansagar Dam Project upto crest level by June, 1995 and complete with gates by June, 1998.

(b) The funds for the Rajghat Dam Project and Rajghat Hydro Electric Project are provided by the State Governments of Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh in the ratio of 1:1.